

Morning Telegram.

GRAND RAPIDS, DEC. 16, 1884.

THE MORNING TELEGRAM,
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Dr. Koch's cholera germ seems to have gone into winter quarters and, during the truce, the quarantine in Italy is to be removed.

It is said that the treaty with Spain would reduce the price of Havana cigars to five cents apiece. Perhaps when they learn this our national legislators will stop opposing Mr. Foster's plans.

There other day we read that burglars robbed a jail. Now the report comes that the residence of the Chief of the Fire Department at Hastings has been burned. Verily, protection fails to protect.

A PHILADELPHIA paper remarks that about the only mills that are running in that city now are the rum mills, and they run seven days in the week. It is a little strange that there is never an "over-production" by the rummills.

SENATOR VAN WYCK, in his resolution proposing that the Spanish treaty be discussed in open session, is disposed to be a little sarcastic and accuses the King of Spain of "giving away" the treaty before it had been submitted with due solemnity to the august body of which Mr. Van Wyck is a member.

Those in doubt as to the provisions of the law for sentencing women convicted of crimes less than murder, will find in "Howell's Compiled Laws," Section 6,864, specific directions that they shall be sent to the Detroit House of Correction. The act was passed in 1867, and covers the cases of Antonetta Lang and daughter, convicted of shop-lifting in the Superior Court in this city.

It cost the New York Times \$6,416 to get the text of the proposed Spanish-American treaty into its office. It was cabled in Spanish and translated in the Times office. The correspondent at Madrid was paid \$2,000 and the cable charges were \$4,416. It costs something to make a live metropolitan newspaper, but the satisfaction of "scooping" a contemporary can hardly be estimated in money.

A SHOEMAKER in Virginia is making a pair of boots which he insists shall cover the feet of President Cleveland when he treads on Capitol hill. A twenty-dollar bill tendered for the boots by the President-elect has been returned and again sent to the shoemaker. Just where this bill will stop and be appropriated is uncertain—perhaps with some humorous postal clerk—but the amount tendered would seem to indicate that the idea of "Jeffersonian simplicity" at the inauguration is to be somewhat modified by Mr. Cleveland.

SENATOR VANCE has written a letter, published in yesterday's TELEGRAM, to the effect that he never received such a letter from Jeff Davis as Gen. Sherman has mentioned and another ex-confederate comes to the front with a letter which he tries to pass off as the one the General had in mind, but which does not meet the requirements of the General's description. The letter produced was written by Davis to Vance in 1862 while the threatened revolt from the Confederacy in North Carolina, which was the occasion of the letter referred to by Sherman, did not reach its climax until early in 1864. We believe Gen. Sherman has never said either that the letter was addressed to Gov. Vance or that the person to whom it was addressed ever received it. The General is a quiet, sly kind of a practical joker and perhaps after he has had fun enough, he will take the letter out of his pocket and show it.

A CONFERENCE of leading Stalwarts favorable to President Arthur's candidature for the Senate, was held at Albany after midnight Friday night, and, it is said, determined to make an active fight in the President's behalf. They say that Morton will not be a candidate against him, that he said so to President Arthur himself and also to several others before his departure to Paris. They declare that as soon as he learns that Mr. Arthur's friends have determined to push his candidature—as they now have, it is said,—he will cable his refusal to enter the race. Congressman Burleigh who, until very recently, was an enthusiastic Morton man, was present at the conference and declares himself very favorable to the President. Ex-Senator Platt, on the other hand, says the story about Morton's not being a candidate is nothing but idle gossip, and that Morton is in the field to stay under any circumstances. The conclusion seems to be that Mr. Arthur will not be a candidate against Mr. Morton, but whether Mr. Morton remains to be seen; and, further, that if Mr. Morton is a candidate he

will have a larger following at the start than any one else, but that if he declines only a part of his following will go to the President.

THE CONGRESSIONAL LIBRARY.

For years the books in the Congressional Library have been piled up like cord-wood, and much of their value has been lost in consequence of the difficulty of finding readily those required. The need of a new building has been brought to the attention of Congress often before, but either because none of the plans were satisfactory, or because, like the Bartholdi statue, no proper site could be secured for it, the bill has always failed. On Friday several members of the House committee went to see a site offered by Mrs. Patterson. This location is about half a mile distant to the north from the capitol, where both the population and the surface are low. It is a fact of history not generally commented upon that Gen. Washington owned lands north of the capitol and succeeded in having that edifice made to face them, so that really the front of the building is at the rear, all this to make the lands belonging to the immortal Washington more valuable. Mrs. Patterson appears to have been some such a speculator as Washington, with the exception that he succeeded. There are, however, other available sites for the Congressional building. The best that could be proposed, probably, would be one of the squares just east of the capitol grounds, but these lands are controlled by a lot of land speculators who, it is claimed, bought the lands for the purpose of selling them to the Government for more than their value, so that this prospect may be killed.

But that a site and a building are needed, and needed soon, will be generally admitted by those who have seen the confusion which reigns in the Congressional Library as it now is.

CURRENT COMMENT.

Louisville Courier-Journal: Congressmen may view the treaty in many lights, but it will require a two-thirds majority to ratify it, and we consider its defeat a foregone conclusion.

New York Times: Every one in the House knows that "leave to print" is a nuisance, but it seems the only available relief from the greater nuisance of listening to the speeches.

Detroit Free Press: The Washington monument is completed, but it is not done yet. It will take two years more to finish it. By that time, perhaps, the census of 1880 will be well begun.

Cincinnati Commercial Gazette: The appointment of McLean instead of Pendleton to the Cabinet would be a case, as ex-Secretary Robeson would describe it, of the "romance of politics and the irony of journalism."

Chicago Inter Ocean: If England, with her surface of attackable coast, considers it necessary to have a renovation of her navy, what ought the United States to have in the way of a navy? This is a good conundrum for Mr. Cleveland's Cabinet to tackle.

Boston Globe: No, the Democracy can not and will not send its grand old leaders to the rear in the hour of victory. "Old men for council, young men for war," is a rule which, if judiciously followed, will be best for the country, the party and the people.

Philadelphia Times: With Bayard at the head of the Treasury Department Butler and his coparceners would have about as good a time declaiming against the national banking system as the small boys who make the Washington monument a target for pea-shooters.

Philadelphia Record: If Representative Warner, of Ohio, will procure the abolition of the rule of the House permitting the publication of speeches in the Congressional Record, which are not made on the floor, much may be forgiven him. His suffering countrymen of all political persuasions will want to shake his hand, or, at least, thump him on the back.

NOTED PEOPLE.

General Sheridan has accepted the position of marshal of the day for the celebration of the completion of the Washington Monument, on the 21st of February.

William M. Everts, who is now mentioned for United States Senator, from New York, was a candidate for that office twenty-five years ago to succeed William H. Seward.

Miss Kate Field continues to stir up the sensibilities of Boston people by lecturing on Mormonism and Mr. Edmund Gosse to instruct them on early English literature.

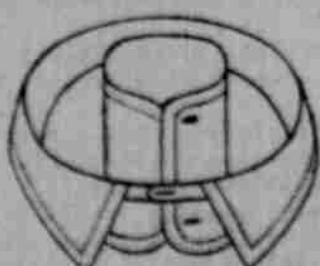
Harry A. Garfield, son of the late President, is appointed class-day orator at Williams College. The other son, J. R., is to be one of the marshals on the same occasion.

Mrs. Frances Hodgson Bennett, who is now at the Hotel Vendome, in Boston, is rapidly recovering her health, and expects soon to resume her residence in Washington and her literary work as well.

Mr. Butler, the "Honnie Ben" of politics, has sold his granite house in Washington to John Cassell for \$75,000. It is said that the doughty son of toil has been pinched for hard cash since his campaign spree.

Ex-Governor "Dick" Bishop, of Ohio, denying some recent stories about himself, declares that he has not lost money in politics, having spent in the political field only \$5,000 in all. He failed in business last year, but has since succeeded in making himself financially comfortable.

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